

SENATE, No. 2517

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 217th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

Sponsored by:

Senator THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

District 21 (Morris, Somerset and Union)

Senator NIA H. GILL

District 34 (Essex and Passaic)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senators Bateman, Allen, Thompson and Greenstein

SYNOPSIS

Prohibits hospice from charging patient for days on which patient is not present.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/20/2016)

1 AN ACT concerning hospices and supplementing Title 26 of the
2 Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. A hospice licensed pursuant to P.L.1997, c.78 (C.26:2H-79
8 et seq.) shall not charge any fee to a private pay patient or the
9 financially responsible party for the private pay patient to reserve or
10 hold a bed for a day in which the patient is not physically residing
11 in the facility and receiving hospice services, except that the
12 hospice may charge a daily fee to reserve a bed for therapeutic
13 leave or during a period of hospitalization. In the event that a
14 hospice has received payment for a day on which the patient was
15 not residing in the hospice and receiving hospice services, the
16 hospice shall refund to the payer any amount paid in excess of what
17 is permitted pursuant to this section.

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19 2. The Commissioner of Health shall, in accordance with the
20 “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
21 seq.), adopt any rules and regulations as necessary to carry out the
22 provisions of this act.

23
24 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
25 next following the date of enactment, except the Commissioner of
26 Health may take anticipatory administrative action in advance
27 thereof as necessary for the implementation of this act.

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30 STATEMENT

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32 This bill prohibits a hospice from charging a fee to a private pay
33 patient or the financially responsible third party to reserve or hold a
34 bed on behalf of the patient for a day in which the patient is not
35 physically residing in the facility and receiving services. The bill
36 provides exceptions allowing for a daily fee to reserve a bed for
37 therapeutic leave or during a period of hospitalization. This would
38 prevent a hospice from charging a patient or family member for
39 time periods in which the hospice is not providing services and the
40 hospice is free to place another patient in the bed.